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## Campaign to End Hill's Exemption From Laws

United Press International

Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., has opened a campaign to end Congress' exemption from nine major laws, including those covering civil rights, equal employment, unionization, safety and health, and Social Security taxation.

Leahy yesterday introduced legislation to strike the nine exemptions and said if Congress balks, he will offer them piecemeal as amendments to other bills this session.

"Simple equity and fairness demand passage of this legislation," Leahy said at a news conference with David Cohen, president of Common Cause which is backing the move.

"It is time that we in the Congress begin to live by the same rules we have set for others. We should no longer allow such a double standard."

Leahy proposed ending the congressional exemption from the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, the Equal Pay Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the National Labor Relations Act, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Social Security Act, the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act.

Congressional employees do not receive any of the protections under these laws. But they also do not have to pay Social Security taxes and have, instead, one of the most generous contributory pension programs in the country.

"The problem is that in enacting these measures Congress proclaimed that what is good and fair for the country is not necessarily good and fair for Congress," Leahy said — calling this a source of "embarrassment and injustice."